



SPOTLIGHT

February 2011



BLT 2011 Season Opens With a Classic: *Tea and Sympathy*

In 1953 a new playwright, Robert Anderson, stepped into the Broadway lime-light with *Tea and Sympathy*, a play about a lonely, misunderstood boarding school student. It became a record-setting hit, was adapted for a 1956 MGM film, and provided modern theatre with one of its most quotable last lines.



Herb Lee (Joe Narsavage) questions his son Tom (Andy Thompson) about his upcoming theatre role.

Tea and Sympathy will strike a sensitive chord with anyone who has ever been picked on or bullied because they didn't match the definitions of "normal" held by others. The play follows the plight of a boy whose interests in music and theatre don't fit the long-standing culture of "guyhood" at his boarding school. The distressing relationships with his father, classmates, and teachers serve as both backdrop and reinforcement for an emotional attachment to one of his few friends: the sympathetic wife of a faculty member.

The play is as timely and relevant now as it was 50 years ago. Today's "Stop the Bullying" and "Stop Bullying Now" campaigns and the "It Gets Better Project" currently address issues that this portrayed decades ago: through stereotypes; the people who don't fit in and the dilemma of aren't strong enough to resist peer pressure for conformity. Some "old" dramas of the era of well-made plays still have plenty of emotional resonance...this is one of them. **Due to mature themes and language, parental guidance is advised for children under the age of 13.**

Student Special
Saturday, Feb. 26
All Students \$8

Director Mark Henry has assembled a fine cast for the BLT production: **Terri Upton** as Laura Reynolds, **Allison Pressley** as Lilly Sears, **Andy Thompson** as Tom Lee, **Joseph Martin** as David Harris, **Clinton Roberts** as Ralph, **Steven Berry** as Al, **Elijah "TJ" Crite** as Steve, **Mark Thompson** as Bill Reynolds, and **Joe Narsavage** as Herbert Lee.

Performances are February 25-26 and March 4-5 at 8 PM, and February 27 and March 6 at 3 PM, in the historic American Legion Hall, 55 East Jordan Street, just one block of East Main in the Heart of Brevard. For information and reservations, call (828) 884-BLTR (2587) any time, 24 hours a day.

- *Calling All Actors* - AUDITION NOTICE FOR UPCOMING SHOWS

An Ignorant Man – BLT's 2010 New Play winner (Full Length category)
▪ **Auditions:** March 12 and 13, 2-4 PM
▪ **Performances:** May 6-8, 13-15
▪ **Available Roles:** 3 men, 3 women
▪ **Director:** To Be Announced
Auditions for this show at the Keir Building, 133 McLean Road, Brevard (turn off Broad Street opposite Ingles Gas Express; turn left at Keir sign and go to warehouse at far right)

— Help Wanted —

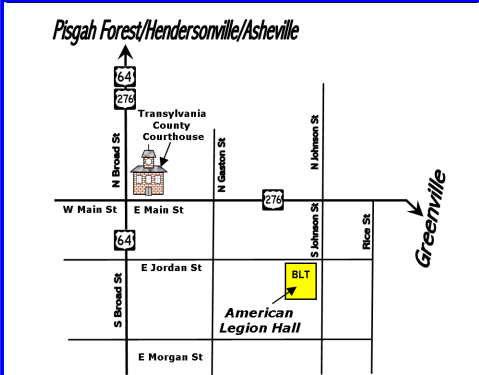
Help needed distributing show posters. Call Al Edick at 828-890-1495.

Enjoy using the internet? Become one of our online publicists—from the comfort of your home! For details, call Joe Narsavage at 828-884-5636.

Ad salesperson for our playbill – call Al Edick at 828-890-1495.

House Managers and ushers – email Denise Daniels at: ddaniels1421@gmail.com

BLT Wants You!
BLT has many participation opportunities for the 2011 season: set work, props, house managers, ushers, computer graphics, etc. If you have always wanted to do something in theatre, here's your chance. Just call Joe Narsavage, at 828-884-5636.



Casting Complete for *Hallelujah Girls*

Producer Maureen Edick and Director Al Edick have completed casting for BLT's second show of the 2011 season, *The Hallelujah Girls*. This Southern-bred comedy, written by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten, concerns a group of Southern Georgia ladies who want to spice up their lives by opening a day-spa in an abandoned church.

After the loss of a dear friend, the ladies realize if they're ever going to achieve their dreams, they have to get on it now—and do they ever! They rally



Hallelujah Girls cast: Front row, from left: Celeste Thorington, David Gibbs, Claudia Covington Carter. Back row, from left: June Stacy, Julie Vorus, Sandra Whitmore, Nita Porter. Not pictured: Monty Burrell

together to overcome unexpected twists and turns to launch their new, improved lives. Their problems abound and so do the laughs amid troubles with a love-sick postman, a problematic son and his truant officer, an ex-boyfriend, and a local socialite who tries to take over the building for herself.

The cast for this rollicking comedy includes these outstanding performers: **Celeste Thorington** as Sugar Lee, **June Stacy** as Carlene, **Claudia Carter Covington** as Nita, **Sandra Whitmore** as Mavis, **Julie Vorus** as Bunny, **Nita Porter** as Crystal, **David Gibbs** as Porter, and **Monty Burrell** as Bobby Dwayne. Comments from some who've seen the show include, "If people want to forget their troubles for two hours and laugh out loud, this is the show for them" and "Deliciously funny words from the Southern side of life." *The Hallelujah Girls* opens March 25 for nine performances. Don't miss it!

BLT Participation Project Aims For More, Better Involvement

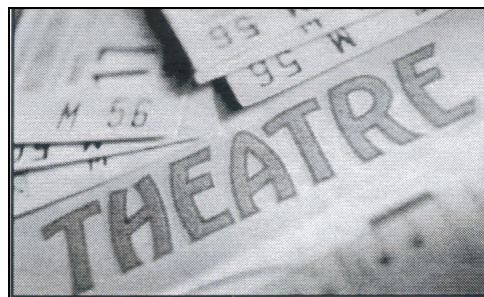
Working mostly behind the scenes so far, a small group of BLT members is planning to revolutionize the way BLT manages its participants (previously "volunteers").

A committee to do that was created a few months ago when a group of concerned BLT members met to discuss the future of our theatre. The group acknowledged that we need active, participating members as much as we need money; a non-profit organization can't be effective without both.

But BLT had several problems with respect to the former: Over the years, it had come to rely heavily on the memories and personal lists of enterprising individuals to keep track of "who might be able to do what." People like Marylou Morrison have been priceless treasure troves of information, but if they weren't available, neither was their information. Darien Aiken built a simple database to centrally record such information, but hardly anybody used it, and nobody helped him keep its contents up to date. Finally, nobody was responsible for recruiting new participants.

The purpose of the Participation Project is to ensure that every individual who is willing and able to participate in BLT is identified, involved, and recognized—including being motivated to stay involved. Committee members are Joe Narsavage, June Stacy, Nedra Carvajal, Mark Henry, Anne Munch, and Sandi Thompson. They are working from a conceptual action plan originally developed by Joe and June, in collaboration with Darien Aiken and Jim Hardy.

(To be continued in the next issue of the *Spotlight*.)



Ticket Information for *Tea and Sympathy*

Performances

February 25, 26 & March 4,5
(Box office 7:00 PM, Curtain 8:00 PM)

February 27, March 6
(Box office 2 PM, Curtain 3 PM)

Box Office Hours

Thursdays & Fridays, 10 AM - 1 PM
February 17 through March 4

Avoid lines at performances! Stop by to:

- Buy tickets in advance
- Pick up tickets reserved or purchased by phone

Box Office located in theatre lobby (American Legion Hall), corner of E. Jordan & S. Johnson Streets, downtown Brevard

Ticket Prices

Adults (age 12 and over) \$16

Full-time Students, any age \$10

Student special, February 26 \$8

BLT Season Tickets are applicable

Parental guidance advised for children under 13

BLT Reservations and Information Line

- Available "24/7" for information and reservations

**828-884-BLTR
(828-884-2587)**

Phone reservations for *Tea and Sympathy* being accepted now!

- Additional information at www.brevardlittletheatre.com

Ticket Information for *The Hallelujah Girls*

Performances

March 25, 26 & April 1, 2, 8, 9
(Box office 7:00 PM, Curtain 8:00 PM)

March 27 & April 3, 10
(Box office 2 PM, Curtain 3 PM)

Box Office Hours

Thursdays & Fridays, 10 AM - 1 PM
March 17 through April 8

Avoid lines at performances! Stop by to:

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Box Office located in theatre lobby
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Ticket Prices

Adults (age 12 and over) \$16
Full-time Students, any age \$10
BLT Season Tickets are applicable

For information and reservations, call

828-884-BLTR
(828-884-2587)

Phone reservations for
The Hallelujah Girls
will be accepted starting
March 6!

BLT Spotlight Is On the Web

The BLT *Spotlight* is published on our website. As each issue of the *Spotlight* is posted on the Web, everyone on our email list will receive an email notice with a hyperlink to the newsletter. If BLT does not have your current email address, please send it to: brevardlt@citcom.net.

If you wish to continue receiving the *Spotlight* via U.S. mail, email us at the above address, or leave a message at 828-884-BLTR (2587), Option 6.

Christmas Carol Rag Ends 2010 Season On a Merry Note

The BLT production of *The Christmas Carol Rag*, a whacky take on the Dickens classic by Norman Allen and Howard Breibart, delivered a welcome dose of holiday cheer to its audiences. Thanks to director/producer Al Edick, stage manager Liz



Malzone, musical director Michael Mihalyo,

choreographer Eva Robbins, and the entire cast and crew for a really fine show.



The Cast:

Abigail Arnold, Sonia Arnold, Tom Arnold, Brooklyn Burrell, Alexis Burrell, Monty Burrell, Agustin Edmundson, Alicia Elias, Joseph Hall, Doug Huth, Abby McKee, Anne Munch, Nita Porter, Cheryl Walkup, Jessica Wright.

The Production Staff:

Sam Alden, Fran Arnold, Sonia Arnold, Juanelle Burrell, Adam Crump, Al Edick, Marilyn Garen, Tammy Henderson, Mark Henry, Steve Hogenboom, Liz Malzone, Michael Mihalyo, Joe Narsavage, Jake Nissley, Eva Robbins, Bob Schmitt, Bob Stacy, Sam Stone, Andy Thompson, Dick Thompson, Mark Thompson, Sandi Thompson.



The Production

Support Staff: Darien Aiken, Karla Atkinson, Lynn Brewer, Molly Brewer, Randi Bucci, Denise Daniels, Al Edick, Lynne Hastie, Martha Hogenboom, Kathy Kitahata, Dottie Kosiba, Leo Kosiba, Sue Lidsky, Joe Narsavage, Karen Narsavage, Karen O'Connor, Lyn O'Hare, Roberta Price, Marilyn Racine, Gail Reyes, Kay Reynolds, Lynn Robards, Jim Robards, Lyn Smith, Marty Smith, Sally Smith, Ann Strother, Sybil Stuart, Celeste Thorington, Terri Upton.



Our 2011 SEASON BROCHURES are in the mail—if you don't receive yours, go to our website for a PDF download!

Keep BLT Alive

Now more than ever, BLT needs your financial help if it is to survive and continue to offer high-quality theatre productions. BLT is a 501(c3) tax-exempt organization, so your contribution is tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. We would be grateful and delighted to receive your contribution in any amount. Please send it to Brevard Little Theatre, P.O. Box 426, Brevard, NC 28712. *Thank you!*

Brevard Little Theatre

OFFICERS

Mark Thompson	President
Sonia Arnold	Vice President
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Al Edick	Artistic Director
June Stacy	Secretary
George Poor	American Legion Rep

BLT Spotlight Staff

Editor	Marvin Barg
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Proofreaders	Al Edick
	Joe Narsavage

Rent BLT's Theatre Space for Your Special Event

Did you know that BLT's theatre space at the historic American Legion Hall is available to rent when it is not being used by BLT? For further information or to book a date for your event, call Jerry Arnold at 828-883-2029.

BLT's 61st Consecutive Season

All shows staged in the historic American Legion Hall, 55 East Jordan Street,
just one block off East Main in the Heart of Brevard

Tea and Sympathy – timeless drama by Robert Anderson
~ February 25, 26, 27 ~ March 4, 5, 6 ~

The Hallelujah Girls – Southern-bred comedy by
Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope, and Jamie Wooten
~ March 25, 26, 27 ~ April 1, 2, 3 ~ April 8, 9, 10 ~

An Ignorant Man – romantic comedy by Richard Manley
Winner, BLT's New Play Competition for 2010
~ May 6, 7, 8 ~ May 13, 14, 15 ~

3rd Annual Broadway Cabaret Show*
Hit musical tunes complete with costumes and choreography
~ June 23, 24, 25, 26 ~

Annie* – Tony Award-winning musical
by Charles Strouse, Martin Charnin, and Thomas Meehan
~ August 4, 5, 6, 7 ~ August 11, 12, 13, 14 ~

Arsenic and Old Lace – macabre comedy by Joseph
Kesselring
~ October 7, 8, 9 ~ October 14, 15, 16 ~ October 21, 22, 23

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever – yuletide comedy by
Barbara Robinson
~ December 8, 9, 10, 11 ~

*These shows are in addition to our regular season.

